

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING HAZEL HARVEY PEACE

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 2, 2006

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise today to recognize Hazel Harvey Peace for her commitment to the people and City of Fort Worth, Texas. Mrs. Peace is a pillar of her community through various volunteer works and a career as a devout educator.

As a Fort Worth native, Mrs. Peace began her profession as a teacher at I.M. Terrell High School. During her tenure as a teacher, she partook in several duties including service as a Counselor, Dean of Girls, and as a Vice Principal. She was a strict advocate of literacy and reading to young children which is among Mrs. Peace's many other charitable works.

For Mrs. Peace's continued efforts, she was honored in 2004 with the presentation of a professorship in Children's Library Science. In addition, Mrs. Peace was also the first African American woman to be named to a professorship at a 4-year Texas State-funded institution.

She has touched the lives of so many and which we are truly thankful. It is the servant leadership of Mrs. Peace, and those like her, which truly makes our Nation great. Once again, Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Mrs. Hazel Harvey Peace.

TRIBUTE TO HOWARD W. "HODDY" HANNA III

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 2, 2006

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the 2006 recipient of the National American Heritage Award, Howard W. "Hoddy" Hanna III, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

The National American Heritage Award is given by the Anti-Defamation League (ADL). The ADL is the nation's preeminent human rights organization. The organization was founded in 1913 and is dedicated in purpose and in program to defending democratic ideals, safeguarding civil rights and combating anti-Semitism, prejudice, discrimination and bigotry of all kinds. The National American Heritage Award is presented to an individual or company whose leadership and character is demonstrated both in work and in deed. It recognizes individuals who embody what is best in America—justice, freedom equality and fellowship.

Mr. Hanna will be presented with the National American Heritage Award on Thursday, March 16, 2006 at a dinner in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in con-

gratulating Howard W. Hanna III, the 2006 recipient of the National American Heritage Award. It is an honor to represent the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania and a pleasure to salute such a determined individual like Howard W. Hanna.

RECOGNIZING MS. ARLENE KAPLAN

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 2, 2006

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, Arlene Kaplan, a resident of Randolph, Massachusetts, was elected president of the National Ladies Auxiliary, Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America on August 19, 2005 in San Diego, California, during the organization's 77th Annual National Convention.

Born in Boston, Massachusetts, Ms. Kaplan was the eldest of the late Sally and Larry Tattlebaum's four children. After graduating from high school, she attended Hickox School for Business Skills and Quincy College for Business Courses. At age 19, she married Sumner "Sunny" Kaplan, a Navy veteran of World War II. Together, they raised three children, and are the proud grandparents of six grandchildren.

Once her children were in school, Ms. Kaplan began working for the Esselte Pendaflex Corporation, a Fortune 500 company. When her husband was elected JWV Department of Massachusetts Commander, Ms. Kaplan played a vital role in reorganizing Auxiliary 302, and served as president for its first 2 crucial years. She continues to be active in her auxiliary today.

She has served the JWV Department of Massachusetts in various capacities over the years, including as its president from 1996 to 1997. She has been a member of the JWV National Ladies Auxiliary Advisory Board and has chaired several of the organization's committees. Arlene and Sunny Kaplan have been members of Temple Beth Am in Randolph for more than 50 years.

COMMEMORATING NATIONAL BLACK HIV/AIDS AWARENESS DAY

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 2, 2006

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day, which occurred on February 7, 2006. In its sixth year of observation, the event promotes the mobilization of the black community in an effort to educate and increase community awareness and participation about HIV/AIDS.

The event was created in February 2001 by the Community Capacity Building Coalition, a

group of national non-profit organizations whose mission is to assist in creating HIV/AIDS prevention capacity building among community organizations in the black community. The coalition was funded and formulated by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention.

The annual event emphasizes the importance of testing, education, and awareness through a unified community construct. Additionally, the day is used to remember all those who are infected as well as those who have lost their battle with the disease since its onset in the United States in 1981.

Mr. Speaker, National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day is a powerful combating mechanism. However, based on the current state of the disease in the African-American community as revealed by the following startling statistics and research, much more work needs to be done to halt the spread of this devastating disease.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:

Although African-Americans comprise only 13 percent of the population, they account for 49 percent of all new AIDS cases in the nation. This is an alarming increase from the startling account of 25 percent of AIDS cases in 1985.

Results from a large study of African-American homosexual and bisexual men in five studies found 46 percent of the men to be HIV positive and 67 percent of them unaware of their status.

African-American women account for 67 percent of all newly diagnosed female AIDS cases.

Although African-American youth comprise only 15 percent of U.S. teenagers, they accounted for 66 percent of new AIDS cases reported among teens in 2003. A similar picture is found among African-American children.

Over a third of African Americans with HIV diagnoses (39 percent) were tested for HIV late in their illness and subsequently diagnosed with AIDS within one year of testing positive.

Additionally, in a report recently released by the Maryland AIDS Administration, the Baltimore-Towson metropolitan area, which houses my district in its entirety, is classified as having "the fifth highest AIDS case report rate of any major metropolitan area in the United States (32.8 cases per 100,000) . . . 2.2 times higher than the national average of 15.0 cases per 100,000." Within these reported cases, 89 percent are African-Americans, 62 percent are male and 65 percent are between the ages of 30–49.

These statistics are mind boggling. However, one thing remains consistent and clear. If not mitigated, the disease will continue to wreak devastation. HIV/AIDS is a pandemic that belongs to each and everyone of us and we must address it societally and holistically.

In his 2006 State of the Union address, President Bush did in fact acknowledge and address the state of HIV/AIDS in the African-American community. Specifically, he stated

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

that, "[a] hopeful society acts boldly to fight diseases like HIV/AIDS, which can be prevented, and treated, and defeated . . . We will . . . lead a nationwide effort, working closely with African American churches and faith-based groups, to deliver rapid HIV tests to millions, end the stigma of AIDS, and come closer to the day when there are no new infections in America."

Although a very promising and audacious statement, action speaks louder than words. With that said, I encourage this Congress post haste to reauthorize and fully fund the Ryan White CARE Act—and to strengthen it to ensure accountability and equitable access to treatment, prevention, and medical care for all affected. I urge this Administration to work in full concert of accomplishing this critical goal.

I conclude with the words of the late and great first lady of the Civil Rights Movement, Coretta Scott King, who stated that "AIDS is a global crisis, a national crisis, a local crisis and a human crisis . . . No matter where you live, AIDS is one of the most deadly killers of African Americans. And I think anyone who sincerely cares about the future of Black America had better be speaking out, calling for preventive measures and increased funding for research and treatment."

TRIBUTE TO ARKANSAS STATE SENATOR JERRY BOOKOUT

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 2, 2006

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise here today to pay tribute to one of my great friends, Mr. Jerry Bookout of Jonesboro, who is one of Arkansas' greatest public servants. With more than 40 years of work in the Arkansas General Assembly, Bookout has pioneered countless reforms in education, retirement, and especially health care.

As a military veteran, elected official, and community volunteer, Bookout has devoted his entire life to public service. He worked to elevate Arkansas State College to university status, strengthened the State's retirement system, and established the first doctoral and physical therapy programs at Arkansas State University.

Although Bookout has championed many issues during his lifetime, he has worked particularly hard to improve the quality of health care in Arkansas. From chair of the American Cancer Society, to a leader in Arkansas' General Assembly, Bookout has shaped health policy for many years. His achievements earned him several distinguished positions as chair of the Senate Public Health/Senate Health Services Committee, the Senate Health Insurance and Prescription Drugs Committee, and vice-chair of the Senate Public Health, Welfare, and Labor Committee.

Bookout and his wife, the former Loretta Langford, have one son, Paul, who serves in the Arkansas House of Representatives and a daughter, Jill Rogers. He and his wife also have three grandchildren, Morgan and P.J. Bookout and Rachel Rogers.

On February 25, 2006, our community will gather at the American Cancer Society's 1st Annual Daffodil Ball to honor Jerry Bookout for his remarkable contributions to health care in

Arkansas. I ask my colleagues in Congress to join me in congratulating him on this occasion and thanking him for over half a century of dedicated service, as a great friend, and a great American.

ANDREA COREY SHOWING GREAT PROMISE IN RANGEL FELLOW PROGRAM

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 2, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to inform you of the achievements of Andrea Corey, a young lady whose aspirations and goals are contributing to her success as an international affairs scholar.

Andrea's record is cause for great pride to the International Affairs Diversity Fellow Program, which is identifying and preparing qualified minority applicants for the Foreign Service. Having obtained an International Affairs' masters through hard work and perseverance with a current 3.6 GPA, she is also a concerned citizen who will certainly change the way American diplomacy is practiced.

She is an example of what the program has achieved with Federal funding, awarding deserving minority students with grants to cover their tuition, books and fees.

Andrea Corey has already experienced the reality of the Foreign Service, having worked with Foreign-Service diplomats at the United States Embassy in the Dominican Republic and writing talking points for speeches by the United States Ambassador.

She plans on working with political economic issues at the U.S. Embassy in the Bahamas this summer, while expanding her knowledge and professional experience.

RECOGNIZING GENERAL CASIMIR PULASKI

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 2, 2006

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor I recognize General Casimir Pulaski, a living legend who became known as the "Father of the American Cavalry" after leaving his native land Poland to defend this great country during the Revolutionary War.

A bold and dedicated soldier, Pulaski defined his selfless loyalty in a letter to George Washington in which he stated, "I came here, where freedom is being defended, to serve it, and to live or die for it."

In February of 1778, with Washington's endorsement, Pulaski submitted his plan to Congress and with their authorization he formed the Independent Corps later known as the Pulaski Legion.

During the siege of Savannah in 1779, General Pulaski paid the ultimate sacrifice and was mortally wounded; leaving a legacy of heroism that continues to inspire people around the world.

In 1910, by an order of Congress, a statue of Gen. Pulaski was erected at Pennsylvania Avenue and 13th Street in Washington, DC, paying tribute to this great hero.

My hometown of Buffalo, New York, is one of a handful of communities which have also recognized Pulaski's contributions with a statue. Monuments can also be found in Hartford, Connecticut; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Savannah, Georgia; and Czeszochowa and Warka Poland.

On Friday, March 3, 2006, I will have the privilege to join community leaders and friends from the western New York General Pulaski Association in celebrating the legacy of General Pulaski in a wreath laying tradition at the Pulaski statue which first began in the 1930s.

Mr. Speaker, we in western New York have the great privilege of having a strong and vibrant Polish American community. Thank you for allowing me to recognize the contributions of General Pulaski, a man who has served as a patriot to not one, but two great nations.

FIRST NATIONAL STUDY OF DAY LABORERS EXPOSES ABUSE, IN- JURIES, H.R. 4437 WOULD MAKE MATTERS WORSE

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 2, 2006

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, they pay taxes, raise children, attend church, and participate in community activities and institutions. Yet, when America's day laborers go to work, they have experiences that would shock any other upstanding community member: police harassment, violence at the hands of employers, withheld wages and conditions so dangerous that is not unusual for them to be sidelined for more than a month with work-related injuries or to work for weeks on end in pain. In Illinois and in other States in the Midwest, day laborers work under more dangerous conditions, are more likely to suffer labor abuse, and are also more likely to suffer police harassment compared to workers in other regions.

This is the vivid portrait painted by the first nationwide study of America's 117,600 day laborers. The result of research by social scientists from the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC), the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA), and New York's New School University, "On the Corner: Day Labor in the United States," presents findings from a survey of 264 hiring sites in 143 municipalities in 20 U.S. States and the District of Columbia.

"The goal was to document a population that, though quite visible on the corners of U.S. cities, is poorly understood by the public and by policy makers," said Nik Theodore, an assistant professor in the Urban Planning and Policy Program at UIC, and one of the study's three lead authors. "We hope to inform policy debates so that decisionmakers can devise thoughtful and effective strategies for resolving many of the problems that day laborers face."

According to the national study's findings, worker centers give a voice and power to people who often lack both. They are gateway organizations that meet immigrant workers where they are and provide them with a wealth of information and training. In all too many cases, these centers are the only "port in the storm" for low-wage immigrant workers seeking to understand U.S. labor and immigration laws, file back wage claims, and organize